
All that glitters: personal ornamentation in the Middle and Late Bronze Age of Britain and Ireland

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Résumé

This paper analyses the chronology, spatial distribution, and depositional practices of personal ornaments in the Middle and Late Bronze Age in Britain and Ireland. In addition to the more commonly known gold and bronze ornaments, it incorporates ornaments of amber, shale, jet, lignite, and glass. Evidence for regional consistencies in ornament form, decoration, and association with other objects are evaluated in order to identify patterns of identity, mobility and exchange. Finally, this paper contextualizes personal ornamentation within the broader Bronze Age society by assessing the relationship between ornaments and settlements, field systems, and the dead.

Mots-Clés: Bronze Age, Britain, Ireland, personal ornaments, society

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